



BARTON L. KLINE
Senior Attorney

August 7, 2001

Ms. Jean D. Jewell, Secretary
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

Re: Case No. IPC-E-01-16
Rebuttal Testimony

Dear Ms. Jewell:

Please find enclosed for filing nine (9) copies of the Company's rebuttal testimony and exhibits of Witnesses Simard and Gale. Copies of this filing have been hand-delivered, mailed, or sent by overnight mail to the parties as indicated in the enclosed Certificate of Service.

Also enclosed is a computer disk for the court reporter containing the testimony of the witnesses. We will send you an e-mail containing all of the documents involved in this filing.

I would appreciate it if you would return a stamped copy of this transmittal letter for our file.

Very truly yours,

Barton L. Kline

BLK:jb
Enclosures

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 7th day of August, 2001, true and correct copies of the TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS OF WITNESSES SIMARD and GALE in Case No. IPC-E-01-16 were either sent by overnight mail or hand delivered, as indicated below, to the following named parties and addressed as follows:

Lisa D. Nordstrom	_____	Hand Delivered
Deputy Attorney General	_____	U.S. Mail
Idaho Public Utilities Commission	_____	Overnight Mail
472 W. Washington Street	_____	FAX
P.O. Box 83720		
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074		

Randall C. Budge	_____	Hand Delivered
Racine, Olson, Nye, Budge & Bailey	_____	U.S. Mail
Center Plaza-Corner First & Center	_____	Overnight Mail
P.O. Box 1391	_____	FAX
Pocatello, Idaho 83204-1391		

Anthony Yankel	_____	Hand Delivered
29814 Lake Road	_____	U.S. Mail
Bay Village, Ohio 44140	_____	Overnight Mail
	_____	FAX

Peter J. Richardson	_____	Hand Delivered
Molly O'Leary	_____	U.S. Mail
Richardson & O'Leary	_____	Overnight Mail
99 E. State Street, Suite 200	_____	FAX
P.O. Box 1849		
Eagle, Idaho 83616		

Stuart Trippel	_____	Hand Delivered
Trippel Mast Consulting LLC	_____	U.S. Mail
506 Second Avenue, Suite 1001	_____	Overnight Mail
Seattle, Washington 98104-2328	_____	FAX

Lawrence A. Gollomp	_____	Hand Delivered
U.S. Department of Energy, Room 6D-003	_____	U.S. Mail
1000 Independence Avenue S.W.	_____	Overnight Mail
Washington, D.C. 20585	_____	FAX

Dr. Dale Swan
Exeter Associates
12510 Prosperity Drive, Suite 350
Silver Springs, Maryland 20904

____ Hand Delivered
____ U.S. Mail
____ Overnight Mail
____ FAX

Conley E. Ward
Givens, Pursley LLP
277 North 6th Street, Suite 200
P. O. Box 2720
Boise, Idaho 83701-2720

____ Hand Delivered
____ U.S. Mail
____ Overnight Mail
____ FAX

Ken Tandy
Astaris LLC
P. O. Box 4111
Highway 30, West of City
Pocatello, Idaho 83202

____ Hand Delivered
____ U.S. Mail
____ Overnight Mail
____ FAX

BARTON L. KLINE

BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER)
COMPANY'S INTERIM AND PROSPECTIVE,)
HEDGING, RESOURCE PLANNING,) CASE NO. IPC-E-01-16
TRANSACTION PRICING, AND IDACORP)
ENERGY SERVICES (IES) AGREEMENT)
_____)

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

TIM J. SIMARD

1 Q. Please state your name and business address.

2 A. My name is Tim J. Simard. I am employed by
3 RiskAdvisory. My business address is Suite 610, 1414 8th
4 Street S.W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2R 1J6.

5 Q. What position do you hold with RiskAdvisory?

6 A. I am a founding Principal of RiskAdvisory.

7 Q. Please describe your experience relevant to
8 this testimony?

9 A. I began working with energy companies with
10 respect to the use of risk management instruments and the
11 design of risk management programs in 1986 as an
12 institutional energy futures broker with the Burns Fry
13 Energy Group in Calgary, Alberta. In 1990, I moved to
14 Bankers Trust Canada where I went on to become Vice Chairman
15 with responsibilities for managing Bankers Trust's Canadian
16 energy derivatives operation. RiskAdvisory was created in
17 1995 and since that time the firm has worked on assignments
18 for over 150 energy companies in the United States, Canada
19 and New Zealand. I have been involved in assignments with 16
20 electric and natural gas utilities as a member of
21 RiskAdvisory, primarily with respect to the design and
22 implementation of risk management programs. I have served as
23 an expert witness on issues pertaining to the financial
24 management of energy risk in four regulatory hearings for
25 both natural gas and electric utilities.

1 Q. Have you been retained by Idaho Power Company
2 ("IPC") or its parent IDACORP, Inc. in any other assignments
3 prior to your involvement as an expert witness for these
4 hearings?

5 A. Yes. I was engaged by IDACORP, Inc. in
6 September 2000 to work with the non-operating group as an
7 Interim Risk Manager. The assignment was to have terminated
8 on December 8, 2000. However, my services were retained on a
9 part-time basis beyond this period until March 1, 2001.

10 Q. As part of this assignment, what involvement
11 did you have with the utility risk management activity of
12 IPC?

13 A. My activity was limited to attendance at most
14 of the Risk Management Committee ("RMC") meetings held
15 during the term of my assignment. I listened to the
16 discussions around the risk management issues for the
17 operating function, but did not actively participate in
18 these discussions. My focus was reporting to the Risk
19 Management Committee on those issues pertaining to the risk
20 portfolio of the non-operating trading and marketing
21 activities.

22 Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?

23 A. The purpose of my testimony is to describe
24 several key issues that should drive the implementation of a
25 prudent risk management program for a regulated utility. The

1 testimony will also provide an opinion as to the efforts
2 that have been made and continue to be advanced by IPC with
3 respect to its risk management program.

4 Q. What essential ingredients are required
5 before any entity embarks on a risk management program?

6 A. The first essential ingredient of a risk
7 management program is the determination of the risk appetite
8 of the individual or group for whom the risk management
9 activity is conducted. Not all participants in a marketplace
10 will have the same appetite for market exposure. A good
11 example is provided by the appetite for different types of
12 residential mortgages. Some homebuyers prefer a mortgage
13 with a fixed interest rate while others opt for an interest
14 rate that floats with underlying movements in short-term
15 interest rates. It is not correct to assume that all market
16 participants want to be insulated against market movements.
17 Many oil and gas companies, for example, choose to retain
18 material exposure to movements in oil and gas prices despite
19 the availability of instruments that can protect them
20 against these movements. While one can assert that all
21 market participants would choose to insulate themselves
22 against risk if this can be done without any potential cost,
23 the recognition that there can be embedded costs in a risk
24 management strategy will change the desirability of that
25 strategy for many participants. A risk management program

1 that could be viewed as prudent for one individual or group
2 may prove to be imprudent for another individual or group
3 based on the risk appetite or risk preference of these
4 market participants.

5 The second key ingredient in the development
6 of a risk management program is a quantitative assessment of
7 the portfolio of risks faced by the market participant. This
8 quantitative approach allows one to assess the probability
9 of adverse market movements on one's position. The
10 quantitative model must also allow one to determine the
11 impact that incremental transactions can have on the risk
12 profile of the participant. For complex risk portfolios, it
13 is often not clear as to whether a proposed risk management
14 transaction actually serves to reduce or exacerbate the
15 exposure to market prices.

16 Equipped with an understanding of the
17 magnitude of market exposures and an assessment of risk
18 appetite, one is in a position to define the underlying
19 objectives of the risk management program, craft policies
20 and procedures associated with any risk management activity
21 and develop the program implementation process.

22 Q. How should one view the concept of risk
23 appetite within the context of IPC's regulated environment?

24 A. It should be understood that any risk
25 management activity undertaken by IPC to manage its PCA

1 balances is primarily on behalf of ratepayers. While there
2 is an incentive component to the PCA structure, the majority
3 of variances in the PCA account flow through to ratepayers.
4 IPC effectively acts as agent for the ratepayers with
5 respect to the implementation of risk management
6 transactions.

7 Q. What role should ratepayer groups and
8 regulators play in the IPC risk management program?

9 A. Given that the risk management activity is
10 undertaken primarily on behalf of ratepayers, it is crucial
11 that ratepayer groups and representatives provide their
12 input into any hedging strategy. One should not expect that
13 IPC will be able to determine the optimal strategy without
14 this input. The other factor is that if the ratepayers and
15 their groups are not brought into a collaborative process to
16 determine the nature of the desired risk profile, IPC could
17 be subject to inequitable negative hindsight reviews. If IPC
18 establishes a long hedge position in a particular year
19 without consultation with ratepayers and prices subsequently
20 fall, ratepayers and their representatives could argue after
21 the fact that the hedge was imprudent because ratepayers
22 wanted to retain exposure to falling market prices.
23 Ratepayers should participate in the development of the
24 broad guidelines for risk management and be prepared to
25 accept the consequences of these hedging actions if they

1 lead to a sub-optimal PCA balance.

2 Q. What role should the market directional views
3 of IPC play in the implementation of the IPC risk management
4 program?

5 A. Market directional views should not play any
6 role in the implementation of the IPC risk management
7 program. The injection of price views creates a speculative
8 component that is inappropriate for a utility risk
9 management program. The exercise of a price view can lead to
10 instances when "hedges" are established only if one believes
11 the market will move in favor of the hedge position.
12 Ratepayers and regulators should not expect that IPC has any
13 competitive advantage with respect to outforecasting or
14 "beating the market" over the long run. If an exposure is
15 identified and this exposure is unsuitable relative to pre-
16 defined tolerance levels agreed upon between ratepayer
17 groups, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission ("IPUC") and
18 IPC, the appropriate hedge should be established without
19 regard for IPC's view on where market prices are likely to
20 move.

21 Q. Do you agree with the assertion made in the
22 testimony of Staff witness Thomas Lord on page 31 that "One
23 way to assure that Idaho Power regulated customers receive
24 that benefit would be for IES and Idaho Power to adopt a
25 corporate policy that, within the acceptable risk tolerance

1 for regulated customers, IES and Idaho Power would always
2 share congruent market views in the region"?

3 A. No. IES has been established as a risk-taking
4 entity whose profitability will be a partial function of
5 speculative transactions that are established to capitalize
6 on its speculative perception of future price movements.
7 Positions established on the basis of a price view are not
8 risk-free. As stated above, there is no room for a
9 speculative price view in a defensive risk management
10 program established to protect utility ratepayers against
11 undue volatility in the PCA balance. To reiterate, it would
12 be inappropriate for a proposed risk-reducing transaction to
13 be deferred because of a guess on the part of either IES or
14 IPC about future market direction. Otherwise, ratepayers are
15 taking risk positions based on a speculative element and
16 this should not be the foundation of a defensive risk
17 management program. With the recognition that price
18 speculation should not play a role in the risk management
19 activities of IPC, there will be frequent instances when the
20 defensive hedge positions established by IPC will be in the
21 opposite direction of some of the speculative positions in
22 the IES portfolio.

23 Q. Should the IPC risk management program be
24 benchmarked on the gains or losses generated by the risk
25 management transactions?

1 A. No. Gains and losses on the risk management
2 transactions in isolation would only be a benchmarking
3 component if price views influenced the implementation of
4 these positions. Absent the price view component, the gains
5 or losses on the hedge transactions are irrelevant to any
6 prudence review of the hedging activity. The hedge
7 transactions are established to reduce fluctuations to the
8 PCA balance, and are not established to be profitable in
9 isolation.

10 Q. What are the responsibilities of IPC in the
11 development and implementation of a prudent risk management
12 program?

13 A. IPC should take responsibility for several
14 elements of the risk management program. First, IPC is in
15 the best position to quantify the risk inherent in the power
16 supply portfolio. IPC should provide the IPUC and ratepayer
17 groups with a thorough understanding of this risk profile
18 and the potential magnitude of adverse PCA balance movements
19 based on current market information. IPC should also provide
20 these stakeholders with an estimate of the benefit and risks
21 associated with several alternative risk management
22 implementation strategies. Equipped with this information,
23 the ratepayer groups and the IPUC will be in a better
24 position to advise IPC on their preferred risk management
25 implementation strategy. The IPUC should also receive

1 periodic reports on the IPC risk position.

2 As part of the responsibility stated above,
3 IPC should work towards the implementation of a quantitative
4 risk model that takes into account the broad range of
5 varying factors that can affect the PCA balance.

6 IPC should develop a Policy Manual and a
7 Procedures Manual governing the risk management activity.
8 The Policy will outline the objective of the risk management
9 activity, the responsibilities of various groups within IPC
10 who are involved in the risk management program taking into
11 account the importance of segregation of various duties, any
12 volumetric or dollar risk limits established in conjunction
13 with input from ratepayer groups and the IPUC, an overview
14 of the market risk quantification process, the credit policy
15 with respect to an overview of the quantification of credit
16 risk and the establishment of credit risk limits, and a
17 discussion of the management reporting infrastructure,
18 namely the report contents, the report distribution list
19 (including periodic reports to the IPUC) and the frequency
20 of reports. The Procedures Manual will provide more detail
21 on actual execution procedures to ensure prudent execution
22 and no affiliate abuse and to reduce the operational risks
23 inherent in risk management programs. It will also provide
24 more detail on quantification procedures for both market and
25 credit risk. The detailed involvement of risk monitoring and

1 accounting responsibilities would also form part of the
2 Procedures Manual.

3 IPC should be responsible for the actual
4 execution of term transactions (which might be brokered by
5 IE or others) and the preparation and distribution of
6 reports.

7 IPC must have a senior management committee
8 that provides high-level oversight of the risk management
9 program, including the responsibility for interactions with
10 ratepayer groups and the IPUC, and the implementation of the
11 risk management program in line with the strategy prescribed
12 by the ratepayer groups and the IPUC.

13 Q. Power marketing companies have access to
14 quantitative systems that allow for the daily measurement of
15 risk in their portfolios. Can the risk measurement
16 technology employed by marketing groups be applied directly
17 to the risk position of a utility?

18 A. No. The risk profiles of electric utilities
19 are materially different from the risk profiles of marketing
20 entities. The first difference lies in the timeframe
21 associated with the risk analysis. Marketing entities are
22 only concerned with the deterioration in the value of their
23 portfolio over a short period of time, typically one day to
24 one month. The marketing approach is based on the principle
25 that if risk limits are violated, the portfolio can be

1 liquidated in a short period of time. On the other hand,
2 utilities are more concerned about the impact to ratepayers
3 on movements over a longer timeframe. In the case of IPC
4 with a one-year PCA period, it is the risk of movements in
5 this PCA balance over the course of the year that need to be
6 quantified. Risk models that allow for price movements over
7 a full year are materially different from a marketing risk
8 system that serves to quantify risk over a much shorter term
9 period.

10 The second critical difference between
11 modeling utility risk positions and modeling marketing
12 company risk positions centers on the issue of volumetric
13 uncertainty. Marketing companies tend to know with certainty
14 the volumes underlying most of their committed future power
15 market purchases and sales. Most trades are done in standard
16 block transactions where the volumes are contractually
17 fixed. With electric utilities, there can be significant
18 variations around the volumetric availability both on the
19 resource side and on the load side. With respect to the
20 supply from generators, forced outages can lead to sudden
21 drastic reductions in available resources. A host of factors
22 can also cause material variations in load requirements
23 versus expectations. The end result is that one's forecast
24 surplus/deficit position can change radically as resource
25 availability and load obligations change. This creates

1 significantly more modeling complexity for utilities. Using
2 a marketing company risk model that assumes volumetric
3 certainty can lead to materially inaccurate assessments of
4 risk which in turn can lead to the implementation of risk
5 management transactions that serve to exacerbate risk rather
6 than reduce risk. It would be imprudent for a utility with
7 varying resource availability and load obligations to use a
8 risk management quantification system designed for marketing
9 companies.

10 Q. Are there facets of the IPC risk profile that
11 make the quantification and management of risk in the
12 portfolio more difficult than for many other electric
13 utilities?

14 A. Yes. IPC's reliance on unpredictable hydro
15 generation creates even more uncertainty around resource
16 availability than a utility that is less reliant on hydro
17 resources. Exhibit 4 details the variance between forecast
18 IPC monthly generation resources and actual generation for
19 the April 2000 - February 2001 period. The variances can be
20 material: actual generation in January and February 2001
21 fell almost 30% below the 2000 Integrated Resource Plan
22 ("IRP") forecast, amounting to a shortfall of more than 600
23 MW for this period. This shortfall represented more than
24 one-third of IPC's combined load and firm sales over these
25 two months.

1 The high degree of volumetric uncertainty has
2 a significant impact on risk modeling and the risk
3 management decision-making process. As an example, assume
4 that the forecast estimate of available hydro generation in
5 three months' time leads to the conclusion that one will be
6 in a surplus position for this month. Assuming no change in
7 the hydro resource from the forecast (which is the
8 volumetric certainty assumption used in most marketing risk
9 models), one might establish a short forward position in
10 three months to reduce this surplus and return the system to
11 a more balanced position. However, assume in three months'
12 time that actual hydro availability falls well below initial
13 forecast expectations, resulting in a situation where even
14 without the short forward position the system is in deficit.
15 At the same time, market prices have risen. This will result
16 in losses on the "hedge" position even though the hedge was
17 not needed. The establishment of the hedge in this scenario
18 serves to exacerbate the risk of fluctuations in the PCA.
19 Any system or risk management implementation program that is
20 employed which ignores the variability in forecast hydro
21 availability will likely create unfavourable results for
22 ratepayers.

23 Q. Are risk measurement models available in the
24 marketplace today that can quantify effectively all the
25 volumetric and market-based risks in IPC's portfolio?

1 A. I am not aware of any comprehensive risk
2 models available in the marketplace today that can assess in
3 an accurate fashion the combined volumetric/price risk
4 embedded in the IPC portfolio.

5 Q. What efforts has IPC made to develop its risk
6 management program?

7 A. During the 2000 - 2001 PCA year, the IPC risk
8 position was discussed regularly at the RMC meetings. A
9 report was circulated at each meeting which detailed
10 forecast resources and the net surplus/deficit position by
11 month , along with the impact of the expected forecast and a
12 worst case price/hydro scenario on the PCA balance. This
13 input was used to assess the appropriateness of any risk
14 management strategy. Members of the RMC were fully cognizant
15 of the difficulties associated with establishing hedge
16 positions when there was so much uncertainty around the
17 forecast hydro availability.

18 In response to the unprecedented degree of
19 market price volatility in the latter half of 2000 and early
20 2001, IPC has established its own RMC separate from the
21 IDACORP RMC which historically provided oversight to both
22 the operating and non-operating market risk positions. This
23 will ensure a focused review of risk management issues
24 specifically pertaining to the IPC risk position.

25 IPC has also embarked on a program to

1 establish a detailed framework for its risk management
2 activities on behalf of ratepayers, including the
3 development of a process to include ratepayer groups and the
4 IPUC in a collaborative approach to the issue of risk
5 management, the mapping of several proposed implementation
6 strategies, a commitment to continue to advance its risk
7 quantification methodologies and the recognition of the need
8 for a Policy Manual and a Procedures Manual to govern the
9 risk management activity of IPC.

10 The historical recognition on the part of IPC
11 management of the need to manage PCA fluctuations and the
12 initiative to establish a more formal framework for the risk
13 management program should provide the IPUC with comfort
14 surrounding the level of prudence employed by IPC in the
15 area of risk management.

16 Q. Does IPC currently possess the requisite
17 skills to implement a prudent term risk management program
18 on behalf of its ratepayers?

19 A. The three key risk functions that are
20 required for the IPC risk management program center around
21 execution capabilities, the risk monitoring and reporting
22 function ("the middle office") and the senior oversight
23 function. On the execution front, to-date these services
24 have been performed for IPC by the non-operating trading
25 function. Should this relationship continue, the skills

1 certainly exist within the non-operating trading group to
2 execute risk management transactions in an efficient
3 fashion. It should be noted that in a defensive risk
4 management program without a price view component, the
5 execution process becomes a straightforward process where
6 bids or offers are solicited from a number of risk
7 management counterparties over a short period of time and
8 the best price is selected subject to credit risk limits
9 with these counterparties. If the execution of term
10 transactions is transferred to the IPC operating entity,
11 there will be an immediate need to hire a staff member with
12 power market execution expertise, or train a staff member on
13 the basic protocol associated with the execution of term
14 transactions in the regional power market. This would not
15 require an onerous training program. However, this
16 individual should also have the ability to identify other
17 types of risk management transactions that could prove
18 advantageous to ratepayers like option structures, weather
19 derivatives and unit- or hydro-contingent forward market
20 sales. This individual could also assist the Risk Manager
21 and the RMC evaluate recommendations provided by IE under
22 the Electricity Supply Management Services Agreement.

23 The middle office is responsible for
24 developing the systems and quantification procedures used to
25 track the risk in the IPC portfolio. As I have already

1 discussed, this is a very complex process for IPC. Some of
2 the requisite skills for this position already exist within
3 IPC, most notably with respect to modeling hydro
4 availability. However, this information needs to be
5 consolidated within a broader risk analysis and this will
6 require incremental quantitative modeling skills and systems
7 expertise. This middle office position is normally referred
8 to as the Risk Manager. The Risk Manager could also assist
9 the RMC in evaluating recommendations provided by IE under
10 the Electricity Supply Management Services Agreement.

11 The Idaho Power RMC would provide the senior
12 management oversight function. From the RMC perspective,
13 most of the members of the IPC RMC committee have served or
14 been observers on the IDACORP RMC. This has resulted in a
15 group that has a good understanding of the use of basic risk
16 management tools and risk quantification methodologies.
17 Ongoing training is required to stay abreast of the latest
18 risk quantification advances and risk management vehicles
19 available in the marketplace, and to ensure a thorough
20 comprehension of the ramifications of any proposed hedge
21 transaction on PCA balances.

22 Q. How should the IPC risk management program be
23 benchmarked in the future?

24 A. The performance of IPC with respect to its
25 risk management program should be benchmarked against

1 several factors. First, IPC has a commitment to educate
2 ratepayers and IPUC on the magnitude of risk in the PCA
3 balance, the difficulties associated with estimating this
4 risk, and the types of risk management strategies that can
5 be employed, including the costs, benefits and risks
6 associated with these strategies. IPC should be benchmarked
7 against its ability to communicate these difficult concepts
8 to ratepayers and the IPUC.

9 IPC should also continue to look for improved
10 methodologies to quantify the risk in its portfolio taking
11 into account the volumetric variability and the price
12 variability. The risk management program can be benchmarked
13 on the effort made by IPC to improve this quantification
14 process.

15 IPC should prepare best industry practice
16 Policies and Procedures Manuals and part of the benchmarking
17 process should include a review of these manuals.

18 IPC is responsible for the prudent
19 implementation of the risk management program based on the
20 implementation framework agreed to by ratepayers and the
21 IPUC. If this framework includes volume limits and PCA
22 variance limits, IPC can be benchmarked against its ability
23 to remain within the stated risk tolerances of its
24 stakeholders. If limits are violated, the onus would be on
25 IPC to explain why the limits could not have been defended

1 in a prudent fashion.

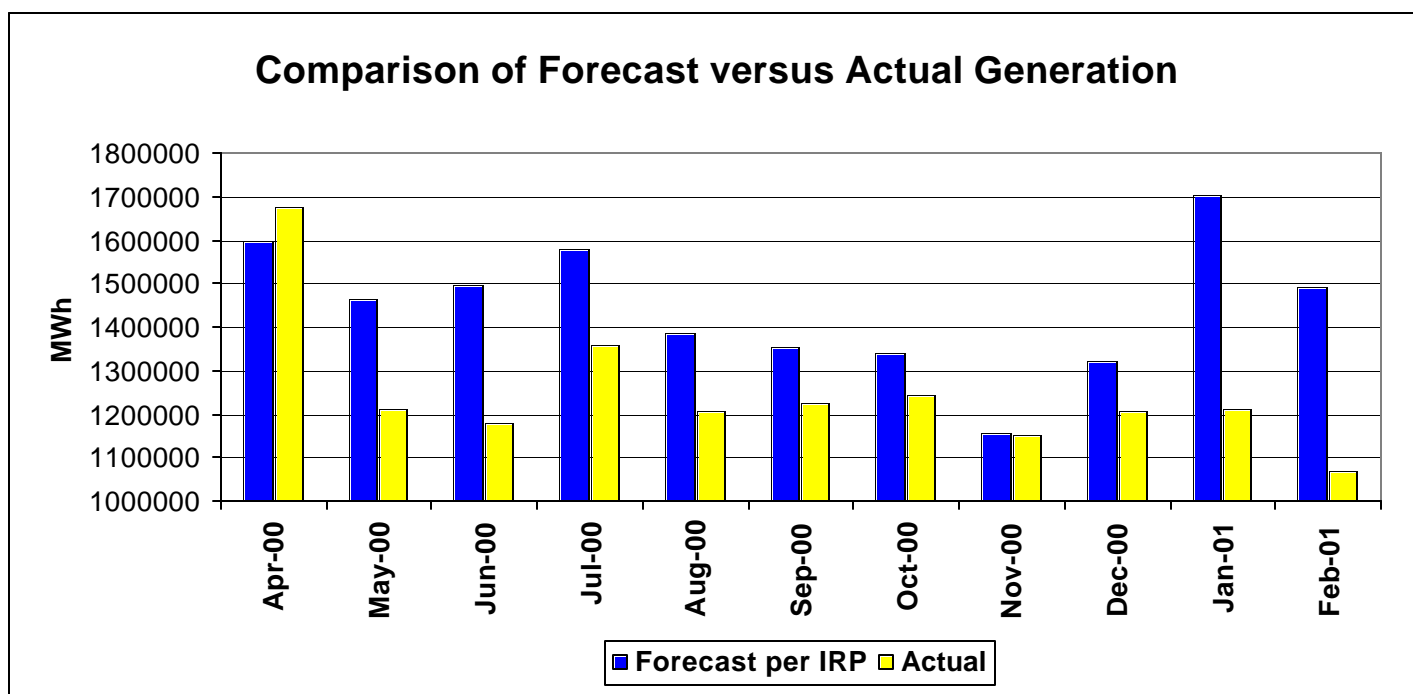
2 Finally, IPC is responsible for ensuring
3 appropriate segregation of duties and to ensure the absence
4 of any affiliate abuse. IPC can be benchmarked against its
5 ability to ensure that these best industry practice
6 standards are met.

7 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

8 A. Yes.

Exhibit 4

	Apr-00	May-00	Jun-00	Jul-00	Aug-00	Sep-00	Oct-00	Nov-00	Dec-00	Jan-01	Feb-01
Generation Forecast (MWh)	1,597,680	1,466,424	1,498,320	1,580,256	1,386,816	1,353,600	1,340,688	1,155,600	1,322,832	1,701,528	1,490,496
Actual Generation (MWh)	1,675,382	1,211,760	1,177,995	1,357,008	1,207,981	1,224,788	1,244,552	1,150,200	1,207,899	1,213,677	1,068,343
Difference (MWh)	77,702	(254,664)	(320,325)	(223,248)	(178,835)	(128,812)	(96,136)	(5,400)	(114,933)	(487,851)	(422,153)
Difference (MW)	108	(342)	(445)	(300)	(240)	(179)	(129)	(8)	(154)	(656)	(628)
Percentage Variance	5%	-17%	-21%	-14%	-13%	-10%	-7%	0%	-9%	-29%	-28%



BEFORE THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF IDAHO POWER)
COMPANY'S INTERIM AND PROSPECTIVE,)
HEDGING, RESOURCE PLANNING,) CASE NO. IPC-E-01-16
TRANSACTION PRICING, AND IDACORP)
ENERGY SERVICES (IES) AGREEMENT)
_____)

IDAHO POWER COMPANY

REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

OF

JOHN R. GALE

1 Q. Please state your name and business address.
2 A. My name is John R. Gale and my business
3 address is 1221 West Idaho Street, Boise, Idaho.
4 Q. Please state your name and business address.
5 A. My name is John R. Gale and my business
6 address is 1221 Idaho Street, Boise, Idaho.
7 Q. By whom are you employed and in what
8 capacity.
9 A. I am employed by Idaho Power Company as the
10 Vice President of Regulatory Affairs.
11 Q. Have you previously submitted prefiled direct
12 testimony in this proceeding?
13 A. Yes.
14 Q. Please summarize your understanding of Staff
15 witness Lord's testimony related to the issues the
16 Commission identified for investigation in this case.
17 A. Mr. Lord is concerned with Idaho Power
18 Company's potential over-reliance on the spot market to meet
19 its system needs in the future. He is also concerned with
20 Idaho Power's ability to manage the system on a prospective
21 basis. He specifically mentions the lack of requisite skill
22 sets in the utility along with the lack of appropriate
23 management tools and safeguards. Mr. Lord also discusses
24 additional areas of perceived value that IDACORP Energy

1 ("IE") receives from the arrangement with Idaho Power that
2 may not be compensated under the current terms of the
3 Agreement for Electric Supply Management Services ("the
4 Agreement") between the two entities.

5 Q. On page 18, line 3 of Mr. Lord's direct
6 testimony, he states that he is unable to determine whether
7 IE charges a brokerage fee for arranging transactions for
8 Idaho Power. Is there a brokerage fee?

9 A. No, under the agreement between Idaho Power
10 Company and IDACORP Energy, any brokering services are
11 included in the annual fee. That pricing arrangement was
12 explicitly addressed in the Code of Conduct that was filed
13 with this Commission and the Code of Conduct approved by the
14 FERC when it approved the Agreement.

15 Q. Mr. Lord indicates that the Company may not
16 be taking hedging positions in the future. How do you
17 respond?

18 A. I cannot find in my direct testimony where
19 this conclusion can be drawn. Nevertheless, so there is no
20 confusion, let me state that Idaho Power Company will take
21 hedging positions in the future when the Idaho Power Risk
22 Management Committee deems it appropriate. It has not been
23 our practice to maintain a completely open position in the
24 past, nor will it be in the future. Neither has it been

1 Idaho Power's practice to take speculative positions on
2 behalf of the system and its retail customers. Mr. Lord's
3 testimony discussing the problems that could occur if the
4 Company maintains a completely open position is not relevant
5 to Idaho Power's situation.

6 Q. Does Idaho Power Company have the skill sets
7 to manage the system and the risks associated with it?

8 A. Yes, the Company has always had and in the
9 future will retain and enhance the requisite skills to
10 manage the system and its risks. Idaho Power Company still
11 retains senior management experienced in power supply and
12 wholesale market issues. The bulk of the information and
13 analytical staff and tools needed to support the Company's
14 planning decisions still resides in the utility. This
15 information includes all customer information and the
16 information associated with customer consumption patterns as
17 well as the software that analyzes load. To enhance the
18 resident skills within Idaho Power with additional risk
19 management expertise, Idaho Power has retained the services
20 of Mr. Tim Simard of RiskAdvisory who is also a Company
21 witness in this case. Mr. Simard describes in his rebuttal
22 testimony some of his initial findings and recommendations
23 concerning Idaho Power's prospective risk management effort.
24 Idaho Power's Internal Audit Manager is also in the process

1 of reviewing and developing recommendations to enhance the
2 formal accounting controls necessary to manage the agreement
3 with IDACORP Energy on behalf of the utility and its
4 customers. The Company's outside auditors, Deloitte &
5 Touche, will review those controls to confirm their
6 efficacy. In addition, Idaho Power continues to have access
7 to the expertise within IDACORP Energy as part of the
8 services provided to the utility under the Agreement between
9 the two entities. The whole discipline of utility risk
10 management has been a rapidly evolving part of the industry.
11 We stand ready to do whatever is needed to be a "best
12 practices" company in this regard.

13 Q. What is Idaho Power Company doing to better
14 manage its power supply cost risks in the future?

15 A. As the Commission well knows, Idaho Power's
16 hydroelectric generation has often been a mixed blessing.
17 In the past, low cost has often been confused with low risk.
18 First the seven-year drought and now the "perfect storm" has
19 painfully underscored that the production volume exposure of
20 a hydroelectric utility is high risk, particularly during
21 times of high price volatility. The impact of the extended
22 drought, along with its temporary surcharges, ultimately led
23 to the implementation of the Company's Power Cost Adjustment
24 ("PCA") mechanism. For a number of years prior to the
25 recent price spikes, Idaho Power was able to concentrate on

1 operating its system primarily to optimize its resources by
2 accessing northwest and southwest markets for economy sales
3 and purchases. Some seasonal patterns led to energy
4 exchanges, while some longer-term wholesale contracts gave
5 us the ability to mitigate some of our generating capacity
6 costs. Risk management models for hydro systems were not
7 contemplated until recently because the price volatilities
8 just did not justify their development. Company experience
9 and operating knowledge were the most practical and cost-
10 effective tools during this era.

11 In the late 1990's when the trading business
12 began to develop, a new set of skills was added to the
13 experience of the past. While these skills are readily
14 applicable to pure trading activities, they are a work-in-
15 progress for the utility itself. We are sorting through
16 such things as whether it is appropriate for the Company to
17 have a directional price view, what is the risk appetite
18 level for the Company's customers and Commission, can we
19 establish objective risk management procedures to operate
20 within a specified risk level, and can we develop or obtain
21 a risk model that can address the complexities of a
22 hydroelectric system. The Company will be evaluating the
23 recommendations of Mr. Simard and others to incorporate into
24 its future risk management program. Some of these
25 recommendations have already been adopted, while others may

1 be developed with the assistance of those who have a vested
2 interest in the process. Other recommendations, such as the
3 development of enhanced modeling capability will take some
4 time to implement.

5 Q. How do you respond to Mr. Lord's discussion
6 regarding IDACORP Energy's potential misuse of Idaho Power's
7 operating information?

8 A. First I want to emphasize that while Mr. Lord
9 raises some theoretical possibilities, neither Mr. Lord nor
10 anyone else has submitted actual evidence of abuse.
11 Further, as IDACORP Energy's purchases and sales have grown
12 dramatically over time, they have dwarfed the utility's
13 comparable purchase and sales - both in terms of volume and
14 dollars. In both dollars and volume, IDACORP Energy's
15 business with Idaho Power is projected to be less than four
16 percent (4%) of IE's overall energy business. Nevertheless,
17 perception can be unsettling by itself. Since the actual
18 separation of IDACORP Energy from Idaho Power, both
19 physically and organizationally, the utility has become
20 increasingly more autonomous from its affiliate. The
21 umbrella Risk Management Committee ("RMC") of the past has
22 been separated into one for Idaho Power and one for IDACORP
23 Energy. The committees are comprised of officers and senior
24 managers of their respective entities. Mr. LaMont Keen, the
25 Chief Financial Officer for the corporation, is the only

1 common member to both committees. Mr. John Prescott, the
2 designated Oversight Manager for Idaho Power is the Chair of
3 the Idaho Power RMC and functions as the supply officer for
4 the Company. Mr. Prescott and the Idaho Power Company RMC
5 are systematically reviewing current market information
6 practices with the assistance of RiskAdvisory. In
7 accordance with the Agreement, IE will make recommendations
8 to the Idaho Power RMC for possible actions to be initiated
9 by Idaho Power. Any appropriate information safeguards will
10 be incorporated into future Company policies and procedures.

11 Q. Mr. Lord discusses potential value to IDACORP
12 Energy in the Agreement with Idaho Power that has, to date,
13 not been recognized formally in compensation from IDACORP
14 Energy to Idaho Power. What is Idaho Power's view on
15 additional compensation from its affiliate?

16 A. In the initial Agreement between Idaho Power
17 and IDACORP Energy, mutual cost savings were identified that
18 left the Company's customers in a more favorable position
19 than they would have been without the arrangement. Under
20 the settlement stipulation in Case IPC-E-00-13, \$2 million
21 in value flowed through immediately to the Idaho retail
22 customers. Much has evolved since the time that the
23 Commission originally approved the stipulated settlement and
24 accompanying Agreement. The Company has gone through
25 proceedings at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and

1 Oregon Public Utility Commission, the actual separation of
2 IE and Idaho Power has occurred, and we have been engaged in
3 an extended procedure before this Commission. Many parties,
4 including Idaho Power and IE, have considered the potential
5 value in the arrangement. The Company and IDACORP Energy
6 have identified the need to attempt to quantify any
7 additional value that IE could prospectively obtain from the
8 use of system transmission and system capacity services, as
9 well as other potential intangible benefits. At the time
10 this testimony is being prepared, both parties are
11 negotiating a proposed compensation amount that might be
12 applied prospectively for these items. I hope to report on
13 the result of these negotiations at the hearing.

14 Q. Please summarize your understanding of Staff
15 witness Sterling's testimony related to the issues the
16 Commission identified for investigation in this case.

17 A. Mr. Sterling discusses some of the
18 difficulties in managing a hydro system during volatile
19 times and the interaction between long-term planning and
20 shorter-term operations. He also makes recommendations
21 regarding the composition and role of Idaho Power Company's
22 Risk Management Committee on a going forward basis.

23 Q. How do you respond to his comments and
24 recommendations regarding planning and operations?

1 A. I believe there are substantial areas of
2 agreement between my prefiled direct testimony and Mr.
3 Sterling's recommendations. The Company agrees that there
4 should be a direct link between planning criteria, the
5 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP"), and general revenue
6 requirements. If, as a matter of public policy, the
7 Commission determines that the system resource planning
8 should be performed on the basis of a more critical water
9 year or if generating reserve margins need to be increased,
10 the Company can act upon that direction. Again the trade-
11 off will be higher base rates (to reflect the costs of
12 additional capacity) against potentially lower PCA price
13 volatility. I believe the logical time to discuss these
14 issues is during the development of the next IRP. Idaho
15 Power contemplates a significant level of public involvement
16 in the preparation of the 2002 IRP.

17 Q. Please respond to Mr. Sterling's comments
18 regarding Idaho Power Company's Risk Management Committee.

19 A. I agree with Mr. Sterling's comments on this
20 issue. As mentioned in Mr. Sterling's testimony, the
21 Company has established separate Risk Management Committees
22 for both IDACORP Energy and Idaho Power Company. Idaho
23 Power's RMC is comprised of officers and senior managers
24 from Power Supply, Finance, Delivery, Legal, and Regulatory.
25 As previously mentioned, the only common member to both the

1 Idaho Power RMC and the IDACORP Energy RMC is Mr. LaMont
2 Keen, the Chief Financial Officer for IDACORP, INC. - the
3 parent company for both companies.

4 Q. Please summarize your understanding of Staff
5 witness Carlock's testimony related to the issues the
6 Commission identified for investigation in this case.

7 A. Ms. Carlock states that certain conditions
8 relating to separation, control, information, and
9 compensation need to take place in order for the Staff to
10 once again become comfortable with the IPC/IE arrangement.
11 She recognizes as Mr. Lord did in his testimony, that the
12 "lower-of-cost or market" basis is unsustainable for any
13 period of time for the type of service performed by IDACORP
14 Energy and that Mid-C pricing for intra-month transactions
15 is an "appropriate pricing mechanism once control objectives
16 are quantified and operational".

17 Q. What is your general response to her
18 testimony related to IPC-E-01-16?

19 A. I am in general agreement with Ms. Carlock on
20 the desirability of enhancing the existing level of
21 management of the IPC/IE relationship. I do believe that
22 the Company is in the best position to lead on the
23 development of the "best practices" for risk management
24 policy and procedure. The Company is dedicated to enhancing
25 our procedures in this area and welcomes the input of Staff

1 and others in developing an ongoing risk management plan
2 that may be acceptable to all. Initially, the elements of
3 such a plan involve agreement on the role of a price view
4 (or lack thereof) within the utility, some consensus on the
5 risk appetite of the parties, control procedures,
6 information protocols, and the development of a model that
7 can deal with the complexities of a hydroelectric system.

8 I also agree with Ms. Carlock that the
9 " . . . market pricing for intra-month transactions is
10 appropriate, once control objectives are quantified and
11 operational." I believe that with renewed confidence in the
12 autonomy, controls, value compensation, and risk plan, that
13 the transfer price issue will be behind us.

14 Q. Witness Carlock testifies on p. 17 that the
15 FERC rejected use of the Mid-C index for setting transfer
16 prices for real-time transactions. What is the status of
17 the Company's real-time pricing methodology at the FERC?

18 A. First, I must correct a misunderstanding
19 evidenced in Ms. Carlock's testimony on this matter. The
20 FERC did not reject the use of the Mid-C price index for
21 real-time transactions. There is no Mid-C price index for
22 real-time transactions. If there was, I am confident that
23 the FERC would have approved its use for pricing real-time
24 transactions. As noted on page 2 of the April 27, 2001 FERC
25 order (Staff Exhibit No. 118), the FERC found that tying the

1 price of affiliate transactions to a regional market index,
2 which is not subject to manipulation, is an effective
3 mechanism to prevent affiliate abuse.

4 Because there is no market index for real-
5 time transactions, the FERC directed Idaho Power to amend
6 the Agreement and to revise the tariff and service
7 agreements consistent with Commission precedent governing
8 the sale of power at market-based rates to an affiliated
9 entity. Ms. Carlock correctly notes in her testimony that
10 on May 14, 2001, Idaho Power and IE made a compliance filing
11 in accordance with the FERC's order.

12 Q. If Idaho Power has made a compliance filing
13 with the FERC, why has it not made a filing with the IPUC to
14 implement that compliance filing?

15 A. Because the FERC's April 27, 2001 order was
16 rather cryptic on this point, Idaho Power's compliance
17 filing suggests two alternative ways of complying with the
18 FERC's order. In Idaho Power's opinion, both alternatives
19 comply with the FERC's order, but they would have very
20 different effects on transfer pricing for real-time
21 transactions. As of the date of the filing of this
22 testimony, Idaho Power has not received an order from the
23 FERC addressing the May 14, 2001 compliance filing.

24 Q. Does Idaho Power concur with the FERC's
25 decision regarding real-time pricing?

1 A. No. In fact, you will note on Page 2 of the
2 FERC Order (Staff Exhibit 118), that after it directed Idaho
3 Power and IE to revise the Agreement with respect to real-
4 time transactions, the FERC order indicates that "Applicants
5 may, in a new Section 205 filing, either; (1) make a showing
6 as to why their real-time pricing proposal is consistent
7 with that precedent; or (2) offer another proposal that is
8 consistent with that precedent." It is Idaho Power's
9 intention to make a new Section 205 filing in the near
10 future. In addition, it is the Company's intention to meet
11 with the FERC staff personnel familiar with the Agreement in
12 the very near future to discuss the potential adverse
13 impacts on Idaho Power's customers arising out of the FERC's
14 decision to modify the real-time pricing methodology that
15 was acceptable to the parties that signed the Stipulation in
16 the IPC-E-01-13 case.

17 Q. Please comment on how the fee structure under
18 the IPC-IE Agreement should be evaluated prospectively.

19 A. I believe the fee structure should continue
20 to provide demonstrated cost savings to the utility. Also,
21 I believe the fees should be able to withstand a market
22 test. The market value should become easier to assess as
23 more of these arrangements are introduced and implemented.
24 It is my understanding that other utilities that serve Idaho
25 customers have risk management agreements with third

1 parties. The Staff could certainly use its audit
2 capabilities to obtain and compare the services and fees
3 under those arrangements against the Idaho Power/IDACORP
4 Energy arrangement. Ultimately it may be determined that
5 service agreements like the IPC/IE Agreement should be put
6 out to bid.

7 Q. Your testimony describes an evolving,
8 collaborative process through which the Company, the Staff,
9 and the Company's customers develop mutually acceptable
10 revisions and enhancements to the IE/IPC arrangement. Until
11 that process is completed, what are the "ground rules" that
12 should apply to transactions between Idaho Power and IE
13 under the Agreement?

14 A. It is my belief that there is a strong
15 likelihood that the interested parties will ultimately be
16 able to agree on revised and enhanced controls, practices
17 and compensation that will restore confidence in the IPC/IE
18 arrangement. Achieving that consensus will take some time.
19 During the period when those discussions are being pursued,
20 Idaho Power and IE need to know what the "ground rules",
21 including transfer prices, are. It is not fair to expect
22 that Idaho Power and IE can continue to incur millions of
23 dollars in costs without a reasonable assurance that they
24 will be able to recover those costs so long as they obey the
25 rules which have been accepted by the Commission.

1 Q. What is your recommendation for the interim
2 rules governing transactions between Idaho Power and IE
3 during the period where the parties are working through the
4 issues on a prospective basis?

5 A. As indicated in my direct testimony, until
6 such time as the Commission makes a final determination that
7 the existing rules should be changed, Idaho Power believes
8 that the rules governing the conduct of transactions between
9 Idaho Power and IE (including transfer prices) should be the
10 existing rules accepted by this Commission, the FERC and the
11 OPUC. Idaho Power believes this approach is consistent with
12 prior Commission decisions requiring that practices and
13 rules adopted by the Commission remain in effect until
14 changed by subsequent order.

15 Q. Does that conclude your testimony?

16 A. Yes.